

Remarks

By the present amendment, independent Claims 1 and 13 are amended. Claims 2-12 and 14-23 remain in their original form, and Claims 1-23 remain pending in the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In the Non-Final Office Action, Claims 1-6, 11, 12-18 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,542,856 to Frantz et al. (“Frantz”).

Frantz generally discloses a web-based system that monitors a plurality of gas turbine plants, and includes a server system that summarizes data received from the plants. The server system can be coupled to a client system and retrieves operational data from the gas turbine plants. The server system can also store the retrieved data and generate graphical representations of the operational data based on the stored data. Operational data from the turbine plants is summarized and viewable remotely with the server system. (Frantz, Abstract).

In rejecting Claims 2-6 and 14-18, the Examiner states that Frantz discloses monitoring equipment associated with each turbine that can measure parameters, other than pressure, for communication to a remote server for where graphical information may be generated (Office Action, Page 2). Specifically, the Examiner recites Column 7, lines 21-40 of Frantz, which provide that operating speeds, regulator settings, vane settings, operating hours of the equipment, the number of equipment starts, operating temperatures, fuel demand, percentage of bleed, and flame temperatures may be measured parameters. (Frantz, Col. 7, lines 21-40). This information is collected from data retrieval computers that retrieve operational data from a monitored turbine. (Frantz, Col. 4, lines 9-43). As recited by the patent, the data retrieval computer is “electrically coupled to the equipment and receives signals from the equipment that are indicative of operating conditions of the equipment.” (Frantz, Col. 4, lines 19-22). The Examiner concedes, however, that additional parameters including maximum pressure and frequency band information are not disclosed by Frantz. (Office Action, Page 3). For this reason the Examiner relies on the combination of Frantz and U.S. Patent No. 6,955,039 to Nomura et al. (“Nomura”) to reject Claims 7-10 and 19-22.

Referring now to the present invention, the invention enables the remote display of information associated with a turbine collected from multiple sources. These include combustion related data identified by combustion dynamics monitoring devices 22, 27, 32, non-combustion related data collected by turbine monitoring devices 23, 28, 33, and emission information received from an emissions monitor. Independent Claims 1 and 13 have been amended herein to include recitation of an emissions monitor operable to identify emission information corresponding to a turbine (Claim 1), and that an emissions monitor identifies emission information corresponding to at least one turbine (Claim 13).

Frantz et al. fails to disclose or suggest a device that monitors emission information of a turbine, limiting the retrieved parameters to operating conditions of the equipment, such as combustion related data (e.g., operating pressures) and non-combustion data (e.g., operating speeds). As noted above, the Examiner admits that Franz fails to specify the retrieval of additional parameters such as maximum pressure and frequency band information, and utilizes Nomura to craft the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejections because Frantz fails to suggest the retrieval of those additional parameters. For the same reasons, Frantz fails to suggest the retrieval of emissions information as recited in the amended independent claims. Frantz discloses nothing more than retrieval of common non-combustion operational data in addition to combustion information. As a result, Applicants respectfully assert that amended independent Claims 1 and 13 are allowable over Frantz, as are the claims depending therefrom.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

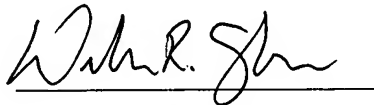
Claims 7-10 and 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Frantz in combination with Nomura. Specifically, the Examiner utilized Nomura to provide a gas turbine monitoring system that analyzes pressure oscillations and frequency bands within the range of 0 to 5000 Hz. (Office Action, Page 4).

Like Frantz, Nomura fails to provide or suggest the monitoring or collection of emission information from a turbine. As a result, Nomura fails to cure the deficiencies of Frantz in disclosing or teaching the invention as recited by the amended independent claims. As a result, Applicants submit that all the claims are allowable over the combination of Frantz and Nomura.

Conclusion

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-5029.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William R. Silverio', is written over a horizontal line.

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